COMMUNICATION

To the Editor of The Tech:

My attention has often been called to the fact that many second-year students are continually expressing dissatisfaction which is particularly directable to the Physics Department and its method of being conducted. Having been associated with the Department for the last five months, I feel warranted in saying that I am more or less dissatisfied with the Course myself, so I shall try to analyze the complaints of the students which seems quite prevalent throughout the Institute.

In the first place there are serious objections to the lecture room which is very poorly ventilated and entirely too small for the number of students, who are compelled to sit three hours with an overload very closely resembling the reserved section of the average circus. In addition to this, the air in the room, as one of the professors remarks, contains about 29 percent of Carbon Dioxide at the end of a lecture, and I often wonder why the Chemical Department doesn't collect the compound for its own use. The second cause of complaint seems mostly due to the Physical Laboratory Course which is assigned an hour of outside preparation for every hour spent in the "Lab." To this end I defy any student who is taking the work for the first time, to prove that he is not working two or three hours overtime. In my case the last experiment required a total of 12 hours before the report was accepted, and at the same time I was aided by a similar report made a year ago.

The third and last complaint consists of objections to the present method of conducting the recitations, lectures and laboratory exercises. The recitation differs from the lecture in that it is two or three weeks behind and thus the subjects which are brought up in the latter are almost forgotten by the time they are heard in the recitation. In addition to this the laboratory subjects are usually totally different from either the others, and, to refer to my ablation of a previous paragraph, the three parts of the Department remind me of a circus, for the three rings are well represented.

DESI SATRIXED.

To the Editor of The Tech:

The effusion of our fellow student, Mr. Batter, has met with so little approval from the majority of the student body, that it demands no refutation, but it possesses an excellent opportunity for an expression of opinion upon the matter of an athletic tax.

To the minds of many, an athletic tax conveys an impression of forcible extorsion of their money, with no return. The system which I believe is advocated at the Institute, is an assessment at about three dollars a year, levied upon each student, payable with the tuition bill. This by means, a sum of approximately five thousand dollars would be realized, which would be sufficient to support all branches of athletics.

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